

NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, Administrator

May 12, 2005

Release #05-023

SCDCA Media Contact: Public Information and Education Division

1.800.922.1594 (toll free in SC)

803.734.4200 (direct number)

Email: scdca@dca.state.sc.us

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS ANNOUNCES 2005 CONSUMER SPIRIT AWARD RECIPIENTS

The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs is pleased to announce the five recipients of the 2005 Consumer Spirit Award. Awardees will be honored at the Department's 30-Year Anniversary celebration at noon Wednesday, May 18. The first of its kind, the Consumer Spirit Award is intended to honor an individual, organization, business, or school that has made a substantial contribution to the citizens and consumers of South Carolina. The recipients are:

- **Ann McGill, Consumer Reporter for WCSC News 5 *On Your Side* in Charleston.**
- **Margaret Brackett, educator and community activist from Newberry.**
- **Dr. John C. Ruoff, educator, and founder of SC Fair Share in Columbia.**
- **Founders Federal Credit Union, for their assistance in consumer education projects in Lancaster County.**
- **Jan L. Warner, attorney, senior issues advocate and founder of ElderLaw services in Columbia and throughout the state.**

Nominations were received from organizations and persons statewide, said Commission on Consumer Affairs Chair, Waring Howe. "We're very pleased with the response for this award; South Carolina citizens are doing a lot to help each other in consumer issues."

(continued)

About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers. Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education. For more information, visit www.sccoconsumer.gov

Department of Consumer Affairs Administrator Brandolyn Thomas, Pinkston, hopes this recognition will spotlight the continuing need for consumer activism. “One person, one organization, that’s all it takes for a positive change to occur. That’s what we’re celebrating here: positive impact in the lives of South Carolina consumers.”

The 30-year anniversary celebration is open to the general public and will be held Wednesday, May 18 from 12 noon – 3p.m. at the SC Department of Consumer Affairs offices at 3600 Forest Drive. For more information, contact Regenia Gatewood at (803)734.4191.

--END--

About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers. Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education. For more information, visit www.sccconsumer.gov
